

Ad Hoc Staff
75-30

Executive Registry
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4 March 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Congressman Robert McClory, 4 March 1975

1. The Director outlined the current state of affairs and developed the events leading to the current concerns and described the general nature of intelligence today. He explained the CIA focus on foreign intelligence and outlined the concern in that time period to determining whether American dissident groups were receiving funding or direction from abroad. He advised that CIA had found none.

2. Congressman McClory indicated he had read the Director's testimony before the Senate Appropriations Committee with some care. He noted the nature of activities on the part of the Soviets as reflected in the KGB book and observed that CIA was the proper organization to stay on top of such foreign activities. A brief discussion was held on the Agency's involvement in the monitoring of dissidents from 1967 to 1968.

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3. Congressman McClory observed that it might be useful for him or the Committee to visit CIA and get a feel for the establishment. The Director extended the invitation and endorsed the idea. The Director also offered to give the Congressman such briefings as he might desire and reported on the annexes being prepared to provide to the Senate Select Committee as introductory material. The Director suggested that the Committee might identify specific areas where they have questions and volunteered to research them carefully and provide the basic materials which House investigators could then treat and check on.

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5. The Congressman observed that it was Mr. Nedzi's plan to call the DCI, Mr. Helms, and other former Directors in an early series of sessions following this with their investigations and then possibly a return for testimony by the DCI. He noted the names of James Angleton,

[redacted] (It was not clear whether he implied it was the intention of the House Committee to call these people early on or simply seek testimony in a more informal way.) STAT

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The Director responded to that question and then outlined to the Congressman his concept of three levels of security - unclassified, classified, and sensitive. The Director gave examples of the types of sensitive information which should not be revealed - citing the names of agents, [redacted]

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[redacted] etc. He described the arrangements made with the President's Commission to protect this kind of information and advised that similar arrangements were being worked out with the Senate Select Committee. Congressman McClory accepted these arrangements as good and generally implied full endorsement to the approach.

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7. The Congressman advised that he and Mr. Nedzi wished to keep the review at low key, generally not public or under television's lights, and focused on the law and the allegations. The Director urged that the Committee look at the larger, all-encompassing nature of U.S. intelligence and its value and address some fundamental questions that derive from keeping secrets, having a covert action capability, etc. in an open society. He also cited the need to address the law and cited one proposed change to the CIA law - incorporating "foreign" before intelligence.

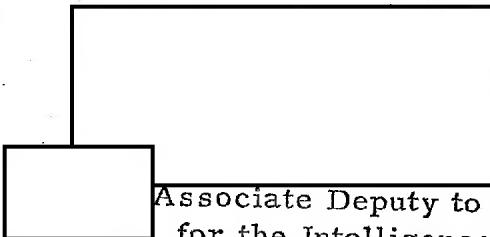
8. Congressman McClory advised that they were looking for a Staff Director but had not yet found one. He advised he had four young lawyers lined up who had worked with him on the impeachment but that he did not want to get them involved before a Staff Director with a low key approach was appointed. He stated that they did have a security officer chosen but he did not name him.

9. The Director advised the Congressman that the undersigned would be available to help the Committee and the Staff Director or other

House Select Committee Staff. (The Congressman noted earlier that personnel on the personal staffs of the members would not be used in these proceedings.)

10. The meeting was generally very cordial. It was evident the Congressman was concerned about the security issue and desirous of getting as much introduction into the nature of the problem as possible.
NOTE: He reported that the Committee had received a briefing on the Intelligence Community from the legislative reference service. He has a variety of charts and background data from that briefing. He observed a need for better coordination. (Earlier in the conversation, the Director had responded by citing President Nixon's Directive of 5 November 1971 and explaining his DCI role.)

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